



The Fly-By

A Quarterly Publication of the
Southwest Region
January 2022



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The Fly-By is published quarterly on the first month of each quarter.

Deadline for submissions are:

1Q – 20 December

2Q – 20 March

3Q – 20 June

4Q – 20 September

Text may be submitted in the body of an e-mail (preferred) or as a document attached to an e-mail (a .txt or Word .doc/docx, or, if written in another word processor, saved as an .RTF).

Images in JPG format, un-retouched, un-cropped, and at least 1200 x 900 pixels, sent as attachments, never embedded in the document.

Credits: In all cases, please give full grade, name and unit of assignment of

- The article's author(s),
- Photographer, and
- Anyone in the article or appearing in photos.

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Send submissions to the Editor at:

awoodgate735@gmail.com

Message size limit: 20 MB

SWR Commander's Corner

Good day, members of the best region in the Nation. As we go forward in this COVID-19 pandemic, I am asking you to look inward and make sure that you are taking care of yourself. You are used to giving your all. That is what we do. But this inconveniently prolonged crisis can take a toll on your well-being. When stress is high with little relief in sight, taking care of yourself is key, so you want to be there for your loved ones and those you serve.

Self-care is very important, and yes, it is hard to break away – even temporarily – when people depend on you. But it is unrealistic to be on the go 24/7 when stress is already high. Neglecting yourself puts you at risk for burnout, compassion fatigue, and secondary traumatic stress. Think of your response to the ongoing crisis as a marathon, not a sprint. The only way to keep going is to pace yourself, so you can see to your own needs as well as those of others.

There are three steps to self-care:

1. Recognize the signs of burnout: anxiety, irritability, disengagement, low mood, or cranky.
2. Take a break. Even 10 minutes for yourself can help you to recharge. Use the time to do something to lift your spirits. Take a brisk walk, practice deep breathing.
3. Help create a positive environment. We are all in this together, both at work and at home. It is important that we lift each other up. Let people you know that you appreciate them. Be generous with praise, notice accomplishments, be helpful and kind.

Watch out for those around you, and if someone seems to be struggling ask whether your help would be welcome. Put out a hand to your fellow CAP members: we are a family. Finally, take advantage of your chaplains. They are there for you. All they want is to help, and they can be such a help... if you only let them.

We can get through this. We are a family. 🍷

Col. Martha C. Morris, CAP
Southwest Region Commander

Safety is Priority One

Please read the latest issue of The Safety Beacon for timely, seasonal advice at <http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/safety/>

Have you taken the **Operational Risk Management** Basic, Intermediate and Advanced online courses? Please visit: http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety_education/

- Safety must be on every CAP member's mind, at all times.
- Before engaging in any CAP activity, a safety briefing must be conducted.
- Don't miss the Safety Specialty Track training posted at <http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety-newsletters-2248/>
- ***Safety is our Number One Priority.***



How to Submit News Items for this Newsletter

Which Articles Are Best?

Ideally, articles should deal with a wing-wide event, preferably conducted in conjunction with or coordinated with another wing (or better yet across regions).

Individual articles dealing with a subject that is of interest to a broad audience qualify as well.

Articles bylined by cadets, especially when the subject is of interest to a broad audience, are also welcome.

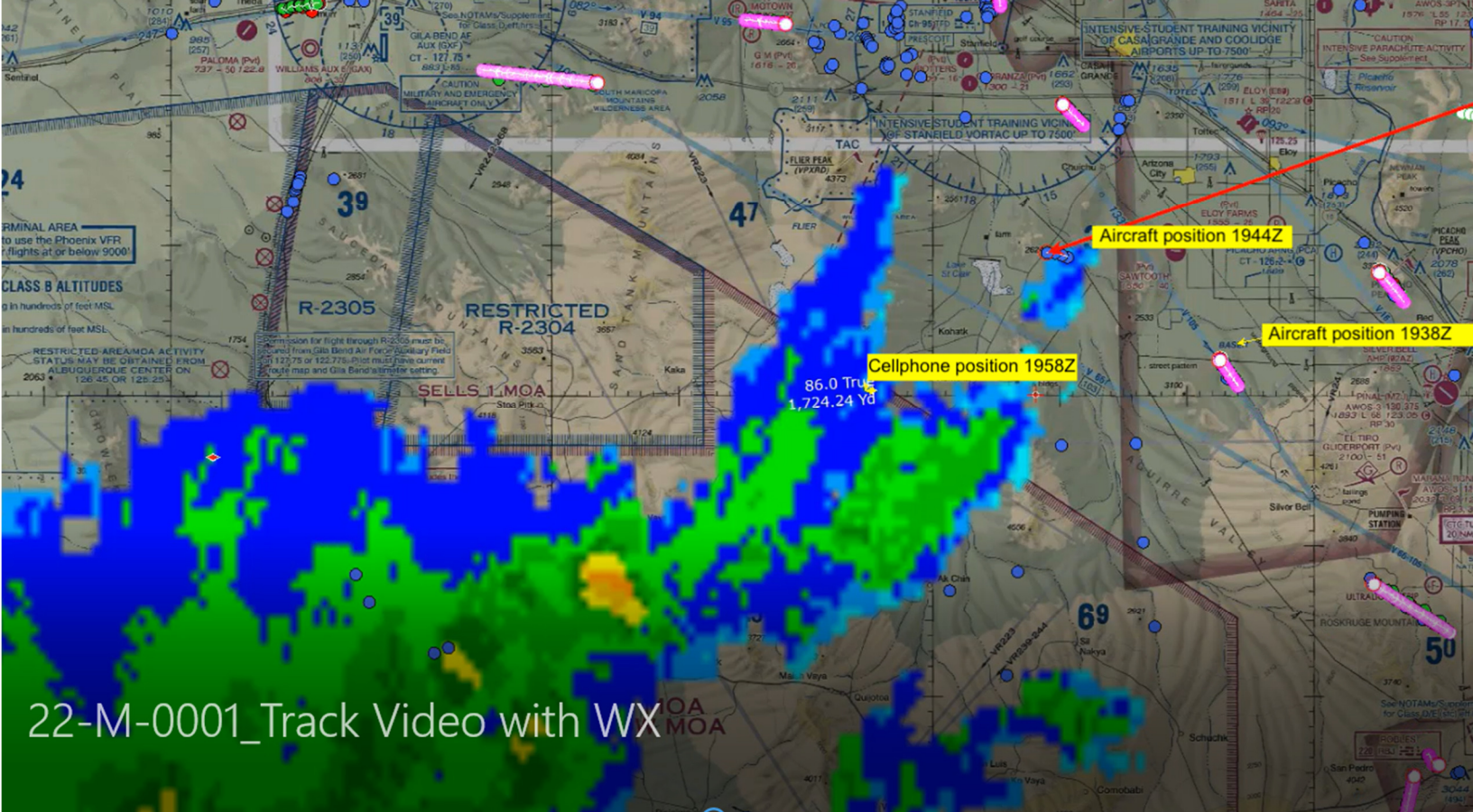
Do I Submit Photos?

Articles with no photos may not be selected for publication. Do not embed images in a Word document. Instead, send in the original, un-retouched, full-size digital photos as attachments.

If You Have Article Ideas or Suggestions

If you have an article in mind but are not sure whether it would be acceptable, you need some guidance in writing it, or you would like to comment on the material published here, please feel free to contact the editor: awoodgate735@gmail.com.

Please read the latest issue of The Safety Beacon for timely, seasonal advice at <http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/safety/> 



Top: A screen capture from a video provided by the radar team shows the weather system moving through the area where the plane crash occurred. (Photo: CAP National Radar Analysis Team)

Cooperation, Tenacity, Technology: First 2022 Mission Leads to Arizona Crash Site Find

by Maj. Margot Myers, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – The first mission assigned to Civil Air Patrol for 2022 came just as revelers were celebrating the arrival of the new year. The resulting search ended 2½ days later with the discovery of a crashed airplane and a deceased pilot – not the result anyone wanted, but a source of closure for family and friends.

The mission involved a missing plane reported overdue on its flight from Marana, Arizona, northwest of Tucson, to Riverside, California. An Alert Notice (ALNOT) from the Federal Aviation Administration arrived in CAP National Radar Analysis Team members' inboxes.

"The team looked at the preliminary radar data and it made no sense. The time in the ALNOT did not match any aircraft leaving Marana," said Lt. Col. Mark Young, radar team commander. "We did see a radar track for a plane leaving Marana about an hour later and flying into weather."

Maj. Jerad Hoff responded when the National Cell Phone Forensics Team subsequently also received the mission alert.

Based on the last known position from the radar team and data obtained from the cellular carrier and Google, a recommended search area was defined. An Arizona Department of Public Safety Bell Jet Ranger helicopter searched the area on the first hours of New Year's Day.

At 8 a.m., Arizona Wing Commander Col. Rob Pinckard learned about the missing plane through a call from the U.S. Border Patrol. Coordination with the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs and the Pinal County Sheriff's Office led to the wing's joining the mission to conduct an emergency locator transmitter search.

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No beacon signal was heard, and the aircraft's transponder wasn't providing any information, which meant CAP would have had to search the entire 327-mile route lacking additional information on the aircraft's last known position.

That's where the radar and cellphone teams contributed to the mission.

Over three days, 42 Arizona Wing members and six planes supported 11 search flights and two transport flights totaling nearly 33 hours in the air. All support functions for the mission occurred virtually, including the incident management team and mission radio operators working from home using five repeaters around the state.

"The technology (radar and cellphone analysis) probably reduced the possible search area by 95%," said Maj. Paul Combellick, Arizona Wing incident commander for the first two days of the mission. "Over the three days, we weren't getting much new data, but the [radar] and cell team analysts kept looking at the data, correlating the radar track with the cell phone info, looking for new clues.

"Information from (the radar team) on Sunday night informed where we started searching" the morning of Jan. 3, Combellick added.

As four more search flights were assigned, cellphone team member Maj. John Schofield grew intrigued.

"This wasn't my mission initially," Schofield said, "but I was curious and decided to take another look at the data." He plotted the data manually and, based on additional analysis, he developed new search areas. He sent that information to Lt. Col. Wayne Lorgus, who took over as the wing's incident commander on the third day.

The new search areas were farther north and west of the areas searched the previous two days.

The afternoon of Jan. 3, while searching one of the newly defined areas, an aircrew from the Deer Valley Composite Squadron in Phoenix spotted the crash site. The aircrew was asked to transmit photos immediately while still circling overhead, using the 4G hotspot included in the Domestic Operations Awareness and Assessment Response Tool (DAART) system on the plane.

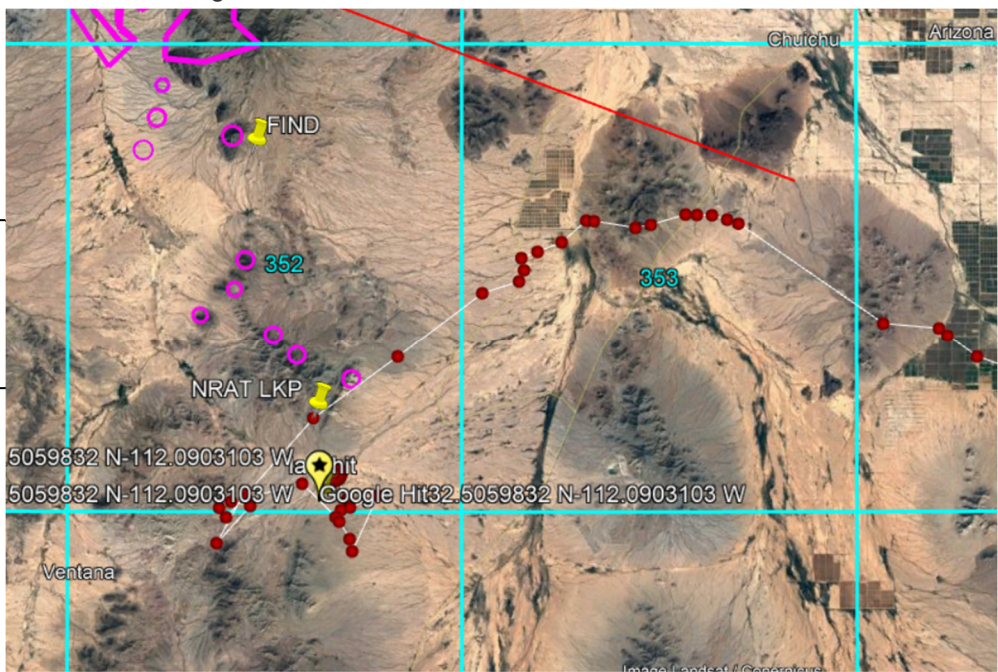
"They were able to send me a very clear photo showing the aircraft tail number," Lorgus said. "With that positive ID, I was able to send that on to Pinal County, and they requested the Department of Public Safety's Ranger helicopter to go into the crash site."

The crashed plane was on Tohono O'Odham tribal land, in a remote, inaccessible mountainous area.

"This was a great example of a full-on team effort involving several parts of CAP as well as state and local authorities," Pinckard said. "This was a complex mission, and the reality of (search and rescue) is that it is a process, a continual testing of what we think we know and what that might mean.

"The trick is to maintain the tenacity and keep moving forward. That's what we did," he said. 🇺🇸

Right: The FIND label at top left pinpoints the crash site, near one of the magenta circles that identify most likely search areas. (Photo: CAP National Cell Phone Forensics Team)





Top: Col. Peters accepts the National Counterdrug/Homeland Security Program of the Year Award from Maj. Gen. Phelka. (Photos: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)

Below: Central New Mexico Group Commander Lt. Col. Mike Eckert receives his group charter from Maj. Gen. Phelka, as Col. Peters looks on.

New Mexico Wing Holds First Wing Conference in Three Years

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On November 6, 2021, for the first time in three years, New Mexico Wing hosted an in-person Wing Conference. The previous Wing Conference had been held on the weekend of November 2-4, 2018, in Albuquerque, under the command of then-New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mike Lee. When Col. Annette Peters assumed command in June 2019, November bookings for the Wing Conference were not available, so the Conference was rescheduled for April 2020. In March of that year, the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic, because of the COVID-19 coronavirus, and the 2020 Wing Conference was canceled.

Because of the severe economic impact created by COVID-19 – where some members had either lost their jobs or had their hours cut – this year's conference was one day only, and held entirely at Kirtland Air Force Base, using three venues: the Wing Headquarters Building, Hangar 333; the meeting place of Albuquerque Senior Squadron II; and the auditorium of Building 957, home of the U.S. Air Force's 58th Training Squadron.



The conference began in the auditorium, with posting of the colors by the Socorro High School Cadet Squadron Color Guard. Newly appointed National Commander Maj. Gen. Edward Phelka delivered the opening remarks, praising the Wing members for standing strong in the face of the pandemic. "This is a day to celebrate New Mexico Wing, and the resiliency of its members," he said, and added, "It's during these difficult times that the Wing was made stronger."

Right: (L-R) Cadet 2nd Lt. Trevor Anderson of Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron receives Civil Air Patrol's Billy Mitchell Award Certificate from Maj. Gen Phelka,



Phelka congratulated his predecessor, Maj. Gen. Mark Smith, for his leadership and tenure as National Commander. When informed that 150 people had registered for the conference, Phelka said, "That's approximately 25 percent of the entire Wing. That is amazing."

New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Annette Peters said that the Wing Conference was necessary for the morale of the Wing. After more than a year and a half of virtual meetings, members were suffering from Virtual Fatigue – burnout from too many Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and Skype meetings – and longed for in-person interaction.

Because COVID-19 restrictions were still in effect, attendees had their temperature checked before being admitted to the conference and were required to wear masks inside. Social distancing was mandatory.

Maj. Gen. Phelka presented a number of awards, which included CAP's Commander's Commendation, and the Exceptional Service Award – which was presented to Chief Master Sgt. Charles Grosvenor, New Mexico Wing Command Chief, for his work on the 2020 National Staff College, before the program was retired last year – as well as professional development awards, including the Benjamin O. Davis Award for completion of Level II, the Grover Loening Award for completion of Level III, the Paul E. Garber Award for completion of Level IV, and the Gill Robb Wilson Award for completion of Level V.

Two cadets received their Billy Mitchell Award Certificates, signifying completion of Phase II of CAP's four-phase Cadet Program, which carries with it promotion to cadet second lieutenant, and may help the cadet's acceptance into one of the military service academies.

Following the morning session, breakout sessions included a COVID-19 roundtable in the auditorium, facilitated by New Mexico Wing Director of Operations Maj. Greg Griffith, which provided a timeline of the Wing's response to the pandemic, the resources used, the personnel who participated, and the lessons the Wing learned from responding to this crisis. In the Wing Headquarters Building, New Mexico Wing Director of Aerospace Education Lt. Col. Roland Dewing hosted on the first floor a hands-on activity for cadets and senior members, which included flying the Wing's glider simulators. On the second floor, cadets could attend a meeting of the Cadet Advisory Council, followed by the presentation, "Ragwings vs. U-Boats: CAP Antisubmarine Campaign," by Socorro Composite Squadron Public Affairs Officer Lt. Col. David Finley, which outlined the efforts of CAP's subchasers during World War II in beating back the Nazi submarines that were attacking the Atlantic Coast of the United States, and which led to the Congressional Gold Medal being awarded in December 2014 to these subchasers.

Because of supply chain issues, the box lunches that had been planned were not available, so the Wing served pizza outdoors, which allowed attendees to remove their masks and enjoy each other's company (photo below).

Afternoon sessions included a review of changes to the Cadet Program, hosted by New Mexico Wing Director of Cadet Programs Lt. Col. Andrew Selph in the auditorium. On the first floor of Wing Headquarters, Emergency Services Tips and Tools was hosted by New Mexico Wing Director of





Emergency Services Lt. Col. John Grassham. On the second floor, a Group and Squadron Commanders Meeting was facilitated by Col. Peters.

Left: Thunderbird Composite Squadron Commander Capt. John Keel accepts the 2020 Quality Cadet Unit Award and streamer from Maj. Gen. Phelka.

Rounding out the afternoon sessions were presentations on ReadyOps – the new generation of communications – hosted by Capt. Steven Lindquist, the ReadyOps point of contact for the Wing; “How to Legally Fly a Brick with Propellers,” a presentation on the Wing’s small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) program, hosted by Wing Director of sUAS 1st Lt. Mark Chappell; a review of the new Education and Training Program was hosted by New Mexico Wing Assistant Chief of Staff Lt. Col. Chris Branan; a presentation on cybersecurity by Albuquerque Senior Squadron II Commander 1st Lt. Aaron Pung; a presentation on the heraldry of squadron patches, hosted by New Mexico Wing Director of Administration Maj. Tyler Leaf; the presentation, “Managing Risk with Mythbusters,” hosted by New Mexico Wing Safety Officer Maj. C. John Graham; and a Chaplain Corps update hosted by New Mexico Wing Chaplain (Maj.) John Tober.

The evening banquet, a catered affair, was held in Hangar 333. Lt. Col. Dennis Hunter, the safety officer for the conference, pointed out that since the hangar doors were open, the dining area was considered outdoors. Attendees could remove their masks if they wanted to, and social distancing was not required.

Besides Maj. Gens. Phelka and Smith, honored guests included Col. Martha Morris, southwest region commander; USAF Col. Michelle Boyko, emergency preparedness liaison officer for New Mexico (guest speaker for the evening); USAF Col. George Sefzik, commander of the 150th Special Operations Wing (SOW) at Kirtland; Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Robinson, command chief for the 150th SOW; USAF Lt. Col. Jamie Gray, CAP-USAF southwest region liaison; and Mr. Brad Oliver, CAP-USAF Southwest Region operations Director.

Uniform of the day for both the conference and the banquet was any working uniform: ABUs, CAP’s Corporate Utility Uniform, the Corporate Working Uniform (blue CAP polo shirt with gray trousers), or flight suit – either USAF-style or Corporate.

Col. Peters explained that the choice of uniform and having the banquet in the hangar were to help members who are emerging from a pandemic spanning more than 18 months, and many may lack the funds for new uniforms or to book a hotel. Also, with Veterans Day only five days away, she wanted Wing members to honor with a Combat Dining-Out those who were deployed and could not be with their families, as well as service members who are prisoners of war or missing in action. A special POW-MIA table was set up to honor those who could not attend.

Right: Albuquerque Senior Squadron II Professional Development Officer Lt. Col. Doug Weitzel receives CAP’s Gill Robb Wilson Award Certificate from Maj. Gen. Phelka.

Col. Boyko, as guest speaker, talked about how she joined CAP as a cadet, which led to her joining the Air Force, and eventually becoming the emergency preparedness liaison officer for New Mexico. As New Mexico slowly emerges from the pandemic, she touched on three main themes: Professionalism, Innovation and



Forgiveness, but chief among them was Forgiveness. “We’re going to do wrong, and people will do wrong to us. The most important thing is to forgive them and move on,” she said.

Right: New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Annette Peters receives the Southwest Region Counterdrug/Homeland Security Program of the Year Award from Southwest Region Commander Col. Martha Morris.

After intermission, Col. Peters, Col. Morris, and Maj. Gen Phelka presented Wing, Region and National awards for outstanding duty performance in 2020.

Maj. Gen. Phelka presented Group Charters to Northern New Mexico Group Commander Lt. Col. Andrew Selph, Central New Mexico Group Commander Lt. Col. Michael E. Eckert, and Southern New Mexico Group Commander Lt. Col. Dennis Hunter, whose groups were chartered after Peters took command, but could not receive them until now. Three squadrons – Albuquerque Heights “Sprit” Composite Squadron, LBJ Middle School Cadet Squadron and Thunderbird Composite Squadron – received CAP’s Quality Cadet Unit Award for 2020, along with streamers for their squadron flag. Spirit Squadron and Route 66 Composite Squadron also received the Quality Cadet Unit Award for 2021, with the streamers to be awarded later.

Albuquerque Senior Squadron II was named Squadron of the Year for 2020. The Paul J. Ballmer Memorial Cadet of the Year Award was presented to 1st Lt. Joshua Williamson, and the Richard F. Himebrook Memorial Senior Member of the Year Award was presented to New Mexico Wing Director of Administration Maj. Tyler Leaf. In addition to the award, Advisor to the Commander Maj. Roberta Himebrook, widow of former Wing Commander Col. Richard F. Himebrook (after whom the award was named), presented Maj. Leaf with one of Col. Himebrook’s challenge coins.

Six award recipients also received Region-level awards, presented by Col. Morris. Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Hunter Mamawal, now a cadet at West Point, received the Air Force Sergeants’ Association Cadet NCO of the Year Award for Southwest Region; Socorro Composite Squadron Public Affairs Officer David Finley received the Col. Robert V. “Bud” Peyton Award as Southwest Region’s Public Affairs Officer of the Year; Maj. Leaf received the Region-level award for Senior Member of the Year, Chaplain (Maj.) John Tober received the Region award for CAP Chaplain of the Year, and Maj. John English received the award for Southwest Region’s Finance Officer of the Year. The Region Counterdrug/Homeland Security Program of the Year was awarded to New Mexico Wing.

Three recipients also received National-level awards. Cadet Mamawal received the National-level AFSA NCO of the Year Award, Lt. Col. Finley was honored as CAP’s Public Affairs Officer of the Year, and New Mexico Wing was honored for having Civil Air Patrol’s Counterdrug/Homeland Security Program of the Year for 2020.

Col. Peters presented a final award to former CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Mark Smith, for his service to CAP – as New Mexico Wing Commander, Southwest Region Commander, and National Commander.

Attendees got the added benefit of an extra hour of sleep, since Daylight Saving Time ended at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 7, 2021.

Col. Peters wished everyone well, as the banquet adjourned for the evening. “Thank you all for coming, have a safe trip home and be safe,” she said. 🇺🇸

Left: (L-R) Former CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Mark Smith receives a special award from Col. Peters in appreciation for his service to CAP.





Louisiana Wing Cadet Earns Scholarship

*by Capt. Larry Morgan, CAP,
Louisiana Wing*

KENTWOOD, La. – On December 15, 2021, Cadet 1st Lt. Josiah May, a member of the Tangipahoa Cadet Squadron, SWR-LA-009, was awarded the Rush & Mildred Limbaugh Foundation's Proud American Scholarship.

Cadet May was the sole recipient among thousands of applicants

nation-wide. This \$5,000 scholarship is set aside for young Americans who demonstrate great patriotism and dedication to their community, state, and nation.

According to the Rush & Mildred Limbaugh Foundation, "The Proud American Scholarship is available to those who show, through their actions and studies, a love for the values that make America great." Each participant was required to write an essay that completed and expanded upon the sentence, "I show patriotism to my friends, family, and community through..."

Cadet May credits receiving this honor through his service in the Louisiana Wing, Civil Air Patrol. He explained that his entire essay was built around what he has learned and accomplished in the Civil Air Patrol.

Cadet May, a resident of McComb, Mississippi, is currently the cadet commander of the Tangipahoa Cadet Squadron LA-009, Louisiana Wing, and is the son of 2nd Lt. Tommy May and Capt. Joy May, also squadron members. 🇺🇸



Right: Maj. Sian Proctor (with Maj. Ron Marks) signed certificates of authenticity for the items she took into space on the Inspiration4 mission, including AE STEM badges, and squadron and wing patches. (Photo: Capt. Brett Russo.)

Arizona Wing Cadets Earn Unique AE STEM Badges

by Maj. Margot Myers, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – On December 6, 2021, three cadets from Deer Valley Composite Squadron received unique AE STEM badges.

“In June 2021, we launched a challenge for cadets in Arizona Wing to complete the task of earning a STEM badge,” said Maj. Ron Marks, Arizona Wing director of aerospace education. “Their reward would be a STEM badge that flew in outer space on the SpaceX Crew Dragon Resilience Inspiration4 mission in September 2021.”

Maj. (Dr.) Sian Proctor, CAP, an aerospace education officer and member of the Sky Harbor Composite Squadron in Phoenix, served as mission pilot for the three-day flight. She was allowed to take some personal items on the flight and chose to include some Arizona Wing patches, 10 AE STEM badges, and other CAP items. After the flight, Proctor met with Marks to sign documents authenticating that the items flew on the Inspiration4 mission.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Gavin Meelhuysen, Cadet Airman 1st Class Logan Pelke, and Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Christabel Reinke received their STEM badges from Marks during a squadron meeting.





Above: (L-R) Maj. Ron Marks presented AE STEM badges to Cadet Airman 1st Class Logan Pelke, Cadet 2nd Lt. Gavin Meelhuysen, and Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Christabel Reinke and a squadron patch to Capt. Nic Fuqua. (Photo: Maj. Margot Myers, CAP)

"The way to earn it is to do extracurricular work, beyond what you do to get promoted," Marks explained to the cadets. "It starts with 12 hours of study, which could be reading or watching videos, for example. Then you also write a career dossier. You pick from about 140 topics, such as weather, maintenance, being a pilot or an astronaut."

"When we have these STEM badge challenges, you do the work within the prescribed time and send it to my office. We review it and if you complete the requirements, you earn the badge."

Six Arizona Wing cadets earned their STEM badges during the summer challenge. In addition to the three from Deer Valley squadron, Cadet Staff Sgt. T.J. Hess from Show Low Composite Squadron, and Cadet Master Sgt. Brodie Hendrick and Cadet 1st Lt. Colton Quackenbush, both from Davis-Monthan Composite Squadron, also completed the requirements.

Subsequently, Cadet 2nd Lt. Caleb Miller of Deer Valley Composite Squadron qualified to receive one of the unique AE STEM badges, which was presented to him on December 20, 2021. According to Marks, "The next three cadets to complete the requirements and send their documents to me for review will get the remaining badges that were flown in space."

Following the AE STEM badge presentation, Marks presented two more items that flew on the Inspiration4 mission: a Deer Valley Composite Squadron patch to Squadron Commander Capt. Nic Fuqua and an Arizona Wing patch to Lt. Col. Gordon Helm and Maj. Margot Myers. 🇺🇸

Right: Santa Fe Composite Squadron's 1st Lt. Sean Blake unloads a bicycle from a CAP corporate aircraft. (Photo: Maj. C. John Graham, CAP)

Below: A caravan of trucks departs from Gallup Municipal Airport, en route to the Southwestern Indian Foundation, as part of the Navajo Christmas Airlift. (Photo: Courtesy of Mr. Greg McColley)

New Mexico Wing Supports Navajo Airlift

by Maj. C. John Graham, CAP, New Mexico Wing

GALLUP, N.M. – On November 12, 2021, New Mexico Wing participated in the 37th annual Navajo Christmas Airlift. This was the first time the wing had done so. Previously, donations were flown by Arizona pilots, and until the need for a larger airport and facilities was recognized, the destination for these supplies was Window Rock, Arizona.

In 1968, seeing the plight of Native people – many of whom live below the poverty line, and for whom obtaining even basic supplies is difficult – Father Dunstan Schmidlin started the non-profit Southwestern Indian Foundation, which today collects and distributes the goods flown in by Airlift pilots, and provides a wide variety of services to Navajo, Zuni, Hopi, Laguna, Acoma, and Apache families.

During November 11-13, 2021, seven aircraft from Sandia Airpark in Edgewood, and three planes from CAP's New Mexico Wing, brought in donations of clothing, school supplies, toiletries, toys, non-perishable food and other needed goods. Capt. Tom Billstrand of Albuquerque Senior Squadron II flew a load of supplies from Socorro to Gallup. Santa Fe Composite Squadron collected 140 pounds of supplies and made two trips – the first flown by Capt. Allan Wood, and the second by 1st Lt. Sean Blake and Maj. C. John Graham. Maj. Mark Peters of the Los Alamos Composite Squadron picked up supplies from the Taos Composite Squadron.

Airlift coordinator Gregory McColley of Phoenix estimated that a record 14,000 pounds of donations were flown into Gallup this year. Overall, more than 50 aircraft took part, including the ten from New Mexico. Of the 27 first-time pilot participants, McColley remarked, "It is so very encouraging that we have the opportunity to grow the involvement and the benefit we can provide the Navajo Nation year after year, from a beginning of eight aircraft. It's key to note that in its first year New Mexico flew 11 missions, very impressive!" 🇺🇸





Top: The Adams family (L-R) Eva, Mikkelyn, Eliana, Elijah, and Chad attended the 80th anniversary picnic. Cadet Adams joined CAP in October and wants to be a pilot – commercial or military. (Photos: S.M. Roxanne Schorbach, CAP)

Arizona Wing Squadron Hosts Civil Air Patrol 80th Anniversary Picnic

by Maj. Margot Myers, CAP, Arizona Wing

MESA, Ariz. – On December 4, 2021, Falcon Composite Squadron in Mesa, Arizona, hosted a picnic celebrating Civil Air Patrol's 80th anniversary. The event was open to all Arizona Wing members, as well as family and friends.

According to the event's organizer, Lt. Col. Jim Oliver, CAP, there were about 50 attendees. "There were people from the squadron and from other CAP units," Oliver said. "There was a mountain flying clinic going on at the squadron that day, so pilots from around the wing who were in that class joined us for lunch."

Ten-year-old Jude King cannot wait to join Civil Air Patrol when he turns 12. He said he has flown a Cessna 182 already, and flies small drones with his brothers. "We set up obstacle courses to fly with our drones.

"I want to be a cadet so I can fly planes," King said. What does he like best about being at the event? King was quick to reply, "The cake."

Cadet Elijah Adams joined Falcon Composite Squadron in October 2021. He attended the 80th anniversary celebration with his parents and two sisters.

Right: Cadet Master Sgt. Matthew McCaskill introduced himself to Lt. Col. (Dr.) Bob Ditch, CAP, while the group was celebrating outside the building.

Below: Ten-year-old Jude King, a future cadet, was first in line when Lt. Col. Jim Oliver began serving the 80th anniversary cake.

"I want to become a pilot eventually and there is some good aviation-related study here," Adams said. He's open to a career as either a commercial or military pilot and added, "I've wanted to be a pilot since I was about three." He also said he's looking forward to his first cadet orientation flight.



The lunch menu was standard cookout fare with hotdogs, hamburgers, and cheeseburgers

served with chips, drinks, and an 80th anniversary cake. Attendees could play a bean bag toss game.

For those who were not already members, information about joining Civil Air Patrol was provided. Oliver said he expects the squadron to gain some new members from among the attendees. 🇺🇸



Right: Squadron Finance Officer Jason Shelton, Sr. receives the actual check from his son, Cadet 1st Lt. Jason Shelton, Jr., the squadron's cadet commander. (Photos: Maj. LaVern E. "Pete" Scherf, CAP)

Below: Members of Route 66 Composite Squadron pose with a simulated check for \$2,500, for their support of the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta.

New Mexico Wing Composite Squadron Supports Balloon Fiesta

by Capt. Ryan J. Stanton, CAP, New Mexico Wing

EDGEWOOD, N.M. – During October 3-10, 2021, the Route 66 Composite Squadron provided support to vendors at the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta.

Squadron cadets and senior members stocked products, evaluated inventory, and worked directly with customers to assist in merchandise sales, by assisting at the checkout by bagging gifts and providing other support where needed.

In recognition of the support provided by the squadron, the merchants paid the squadron \$2,500. Cadet 1st Lt. Jason Shelton, Jr., the squadron's cadet commander, presented the actual check to his father, 2nd Lt. Jason Shelton, Sr., the squadron's finance officer. Funds will be used to support cadets on encampments, helping them learn how to fly, and purchasing needed supplies for squadron activities.

The Route 66 Composite Squadron is expanding and is fully capable of meeting any goal tasked by New Mexico Wing Headquarters. Cadets can learn how to fly gliders, as well as single engine aircraft, and can even earn a private pilot rating. Cadets and senior members can learn how to operate as members of a ground team during search and rescue exercises, as well as actual missions. 🇺🇸





Top: CAP cadets march as a color guard at Beauregard Parish Fair parade. (L-R) Cadet Airman First Class Alyssa Rougeau, Cadet Tech Sgt. Abby Rogeau, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Wesley Felice, and Cadet Airman First Class Samantha Jordan. (Photo: 2nd Lt. Tracy F. Jordan, CAP)

Louisiana Wing Cadet Color Guard Participates in Beauregard Fair Parade

by 2nd Lt. Tracy F. Jordan, CAP, Louisiana Wing

DERIDDER, La. – On October 5, 2021, cadets from Civil Air Patrol's Lake Charles Composite Squadron served as color guard for the Beauregard Parish fair parade held in DeRidder, La.

One of the most anticipated events in Beauregard Parish each year, the fair celebrates the area's history of farm living, family, and fellowship. The fair and parade made a big return after being cancelled last year in the aftermath of Hurricane Laura.

Observers along the route stood to salute and applaud as the colors passed by.

Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Wesley Felice and Cadet Technical Sergeant Abby Rougeau marched carrying the American and Louisiana flags with Cadet Airmen First Class Allyssa Rougeau and Samantha Jordan serving as rifle guard.

Cadets from both the Lake Charles and Leesville Composite Squadrons paraded behind the color guard. 🇺🇸



Top: Senior Member Paul Turner operated the ball toss booth for children. (Photos: Tech. Sgt. John Horne, CAP, and Capt. Roseanne Marquez, CAP)

Arizona Wing Members Support Air National Guard Family Day

by Tech. Sgt. John Horne, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – On October 2, 2021, cadets from Sky Harbor Composite Squadron in Phoenix and the 388th Composite Squadron in Glendale carried out their assignments to support the 161st Air Refueling Wing's Family Day. The Arizona Air National Guard unit, based at Sky Harbor International Airport, holds this event annually.

Family Day is designed to show appreciation to the families of the enlisted airmen and officers of the base for all their hard work and dedication in supporting the Arizona Air National Guard. Sky Harbor Composite Squadron members have participated in Family Day for approximately 10 years.

Cadets have provided essential assistance to this event in the setup, activities, and closing phases. This has included erecting pop-up tents, assembling trash containers, preparing food serving lines, serving food to families, staffing entertainment activities, clearing trash, and taking down the tents at the event's conclusion.

Cadets, under the supervision of Air National Guard staff, served up beef brisket, pulled pork, cooked vegetables and salad to hungry 161st ARW members and senior members of Sky Harbor Composite Squadron.

Senior members from the squadron staffed a ball toss booth for children, and every child who participated received a prize.

CAP Participants in 161st ARW Family Day included 13 cadets and nine senior members from Sky Harbor Composite Squadron and three cadets from the 388th Composite Squadron.

Despite the long day of work, cadets remained energetic through the conclusion of the event. Brian Benbow, the civilian coordinator for the 161st ARW, praised the cadets for their enthusiastic performance and said that the 2021 Family Day would not have been so successful without their assistance. 🇺🇸

Below: Cadet Staff Sgt. Evangelia Birnbaum kept the salad bar clean for families.





Top: A flight of cadets from Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron performs a drill demonstration at the New Mexico Wing Open House. (Photos: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)

Below: (L-R) Cadet Airman Alexander Medina and Cadet Airman James Everett of Eagle Cadet Squadron checked guests’ temperatures and provided hand sanitizer.

New Mexico Wing Hosts First Open House in Over Two Years

By Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On September 30, 2021, New Mexico Wing hosted its first in-person Open House in over two years, at the Albuquerque Heights First Church of the Nazarene, the meeting place of Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron, which has hosted the event in conjunction with the Wing since 2018 (the squadron has hosted the Open House as a standalone event since 2015). The last Wing Open House was held on August 29, 2019, just seven months before the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus and the global pandemic that halted in-person gatherings for 15 months.



This year’s Open House was a severely scaled-back version of its predecessors. While COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings were lifted on July 1, 2021, by New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, mandates on the wearing of masks at indoor public gatherings were imposed on September 15, 2021, due to the rise in COVID-positive cases from the Delta variant, a more contagious and virulent strain of its parent virus. Activities which previously had been spread out between the foyer and the gym were concentrated in the gym. Guests could visit



the Wing's Mobile Operations Center (MOC), used by Emergency Services personnel for remote staging areas, and the bloodmobile by United Blood Services, for those members or guests who wanted to donate blood. (Rain prevented the Wing from displaying its glider.) Foodstuffs were limited to granola bars and bags of trail mix, out of the squadron's concern about serving hot food during the pandemic.

Above: Lt. Col. Beverly Vito, who joined Civil Air Patrol in 1964, shows off the "Ike" jacket that she wore as a cadet in the 1960s.

Below: (L-R): Cadet Airman Rachel Salazar and Cadet Master Sgt. Gabriel Wiszewski of Spirit Squadron discuss aspects of the present-day Cadet Program with a guest.

COVID-19 protocols were present during all phases of the Open House. Cadets and senior members checked each guest's temperature and asked health screening questions at the door and gave out wristbands to identify those guests who had passed the screening. Once inside the church, cadets stood by with hand sanitizer for those guests who wanted it, and all guests were reminded to wear masks inside and practice social distancing, always remaining at least six feet apart from each other.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, an opening prayer, and a safety briefing, Albuquerque Heights Composite



Squadron Commander Maj. Mary A. Fox outlined the events of the evening, which included a drill demonstration by Spirit Squadron cadets, booths on the history of CAP and the history of Spirit Squadron, displays on Leadership, Aerospace Education, and Emergency Services, and even a booth with vintage photos, equipment, and uniforms of the early Cadet Program, which was launched in 1964.

The Open House was a collaborative effort between four squadrons – Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron, Eagle Cadet Squadron, Falcon Composite Squadron and Socorro Composite Squadron – as well as Wing Headquarters. Cadets from Eagle Cadet Squadron performed temperature checks and provided hand sanitizer. Cadets and senior members from all units stood by booths describing their specialty and answered guest questions.

Notable among the displays was a booth devoted to vintage CAP uniforms and equipment, provided entirely by Lt. Col. Beverly A. Vito, which included an old manual typewriter. “We used it to type up orders and personnel authorizations,” said Vito, who joined CAP in 1964. She was especially proud of her “Ike” jacket – named for the style of jacket worn by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, when he commanded Allied forces in Europe as General of the Army in World War II – which included the distinctive “CAPC” (Civil Air Patrol Cadet) lapel insignia, as well as the stylized cadet ribbons worn by cadets in the 1960s, known affectionately by former cadets as either “Cap’n Crunch Ribbons” or “Mickey Mouse Ribbons.”

Members of New Mexico Wing Staff were also present to discuss the programs offered by Civil Air Patrol in the State of New Mexico. New Mexico Wing Director of small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) 1st Lt. Mark Chappell, who is also a member of Spirit Squadron, gave a presentation on Emergency Services opportunities within the state. New Mexico Wing Director of Aerospace Education Lt. Col. Roland Dewing brought along the Wing’s glider simulator, which allowed guests to experience the thrill of flying a glider in a safe, virtual environment.

Albuquerque Heights Composite Squadron Commander Maj. Mary A. Fox was impressed with the cadets effort, “This event is a fabulous way to practice the leadership skills that the cadets have been learning over the past year, while exposing all who attend to this fabulous organization: the Civil Air Patrol.”

New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Annette Peters also provided her feedback. “Albuquerque Heights Composite Squadron did an outstanding job of organizing this very successful Open

House. Their eagerness to include and work with other squadrons for the Open House clearly shows the team spirit that many of our members share.” 🇺🇸



Left: New Mexico Wing Director of Aerospace Education Lt. Col. Roland Dewing guides a cadet through the controls of the Wing’s glider simulator.



Top: Presenting the colors for this event was an all-female group of cadets. Cadet Tech Sgt. Abby Rougeau carried the American Flag, Cadet Senior Airman Abby Felice carried the Louisiana flag, and Cadet Airmen 1st Class Allyssa Rougeau and Samantha Jordan served as rifle guards. At center is Ms. Marilu Henner, the keynote speaker.

Louisiana Wing Cadets Provide Color Guard for Women's Commission

by 2nd Lt. Carolyn Felice, CAP, Louisiana Wing

LAKE CHARLES, La. – On October 21, 2021, cadets from Civil Air Patrol Louisiana Wing's Lake Charles Composite Squadron served as the color guard for the 2021 Fall Women's Conference.

Organized by the Women's Commission of Southwest Louisiana, the day was designed to highlight and empower women to make a difference. This year's keynote speaker was Marilu Henner, star of the hit television series "Taxi" and "Evening Shade," and New York Times Best Selling author of 10 health, memory, parenting and lifestyle improvement books.

With 30 years in service, the Women's Commission is a non-profit, volunteer organization of women committed to developing the potential of women, promoting volunteerism, and serving the community. A crucial part of their legacy is giving back to the Southwest Louisiana community. 🇺🇸



Top: Arizona Wing Commander Col. Robert Pinckard accepts the Emergency Management Voluntary Organization of the Year Award from Judd Freed, CEM, IAEM-USA President. (Photo courtesy IAEM-USA)

International Association of Emergency Managers Awards Recognize CAP Contributions

by Maj. Margot Myers, CAP, Arizona Wing

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – For the second year in a row, Civil Air Patrol received three major awards at the International Association of Emergency Managers Annual Conference, which took place on October 18, 2021, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Two of the three awards went to Arizona Wing recipients.

The winner of the 2021 IAEM-USA Emergency Management Voluntary Organization of the Year Award is Civil Air Patrol's Arizona Wing. This award is presented to one U.S. voluntary organization that made extraordinary emergency management contributions within the United States, including the District of Columbia and U.S. territories.

During a year-long series of responses, the Arizona Wing provided staffing for three weeks to CAP's Type I Incident Management Team, following earthquakes in Puerto Rico. In August 2020, Arizona Wing members helped staff the Regional Area Command Incident Management Team managing the 167-volunteer response to Hurricane Laura in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Arizona Wing also supported three and a half months of transportation and distribution of meals to homeless quarantined individuals in Arizona, which included the feeding of more than 2,500 people.

The wing also provided 52 aircraft transport sorties, moving more than 5,000 COVID-19 test kits to outlying regions of Arizona. When State of New Mexico lab facilities were overwhelmed, CAP members in Arizona rendezvoused with New Mexico Wing members who flew in test samples, providing ground transport to testing labs in Arizona. Wing aircrews also supported dozens of timely air transports of State of Arizona and National Guard site survey teams to multiple locations across the state.

Through Operation Pulse Lift, the Arizona Wing led the nation with the establishment of 42 temporary blood donor centers at seven locations across the state. These were set up to assist in

meeting the request of the U.S. Surgeon General for blood donor centers because across the nation, 80% of the usual donor centers, such as schools and churches, were closed due to COVID-19.

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Robert L. Ditch, CAP, received the IAEM-USA Emergency Management Volunteer of the Year Award, which is presented to an individual in recognition of exceptional emergency management services and contributions to the community throughout the prior year.

The citation notes, "During 2020, Ditch personified the essence of emergency management volunteerism as a member of CAP. He was actively engaged in supporting both FEMA and CAP by teaching more than 80 emergency management classes across the nation and virtually. He was the primary agent toward the employment of a 10-person teaching team that rotated between assignments of just-in-time Emergency Operations Center courses for FEMA to emergency managers across the nation. All classes were taught pro bono, keeping the FEMA/EMI programs alive and saving the organizations more than \$300,000 in instructional and material costs."

Additionally, Ditch supported the response to one earthquake, a major hurricane, and the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. His efforts have accounted for the setting up and operation of more than 80 blood donor centers in seven states, which collected over 3,800 units of blood and saved an estimated 11,400 lives.

Finally, he supported the ongoing grid/infrastructure assessment and airborne reporting and photography of electrical grid reconstitution efforts in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria. This led to him being able to support incident command duties during and following the 2020 earthquake.

The third award, the 2021 IAEM-USA Uniformed Services Auxiliary Emergency Manager of the Year went to John Desmarais, Sr., CAP's Director of Operations. This award recognizes an individual serving as a member of a uniformed services auxiliary organization performing emergency management as his or her primary function. Accomplishments must show not only a benefit but also a measurable impact.

Desmarais was honored for his role directing CAP's nationwide response to 102 disasters including the Type I National Incident Management Team (IMT) that oversaw the response to earthquakes in Puerto Rico, Hurricane Laura, California wildfires, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

IAEM-USA, the nation's largest emergency management professional association, is a nonprofit professional organization representing more than 5,000 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and others involved in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all types of disasters including acts of terrorism. 🇺🇸

Editor's note: The number of blood donation centers and blood units collected increased significantly by the end of 2021, with more than 9,000 units of blood donated. The award to Lt. Col. (Dr.) Ditch reflects Operation Pulse Lift activity in 2020.

Right: Lt. Col. (Dr.) Bob Ditch was recognized for teaching emergency management classes across the nation, including this NESA Planning & Managing Press Conferences course at Falcon Composite Squadron in Mesa, Arizona.





Top: Newly appointed New Mexico Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Andrew Selph, conducting a program on changes to the Cadet Program, at the 2021 New Mexico Wing Conference. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)

Selph Appointed New Mexico Wing Vice Commander

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – In an e-mail addressed to all members on December 6, 2021, New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Annette Peters announced the appointment of Lt. Col. Andrew Selph as New Mexico Wing Vice Commander. He succeeds Lt. Col. Dean M. Klassy, Sr., who served as New Mexico Wing Vice Commander since June 2019.

“I want to thank Lt. Col. Klassy for his service to New Mexico Wing over the past two years,” said Peters. “His time and energy in serving our Wing is appreciated,” she added.

A recipient of the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award, the highest achievable cadet award in CAP, Selph has held numerous positions at the Squadron, Group and Wing level, including Deputy Commander for Seniors, Deputy Commander for Cadets and Advisor to the Commander of Eagle Cadet Squadron. He also served as commander of Eagle Cadet Squadron, Group 800, and Northern New Mexico Group. At the Wing level, he has served as Director of Cadet Programs.

Selph has encouraged all senior members to upgrade their specialty tracks by seeking a mentor if they need to, and for those more seasoned senior members to volunteer as instructors for CAP's newly formed Volunteer University. “The development and progression of our ranks is the key to sustaining the Wing's progress into the future and relieving you of many of your multiple duty assignments,” he said. 🇺🇸



Left: Members of Show Low Composite Squadron gathered on December 4, 2021, to celebrate a year of accomplishments. (Photo courtesy of Ms. Jeri Farrell)

Arizona Wing Squadron Celebrates a Year of Accomplishments

by Lt. Col. Carol Schaub Schlager, CAP, Arizona Wing

SHOW LOW, Ariz. – On December 4, 2021, the Show Low Composite Squadron held a banquet to celebrate both its members' accomplishments during 2021 and the 80th anniversary of Civil Air Patrol's founding. The event was held at the Veterans of Foreign Wars White Mountain Post 9907 in Show Low.

The squadron celebrated national-level achievement for its aerospace program and cadet program, receiving the Aerospace Achievement Award and its second Quality Cadet Unit Award in 2021.

The squadron also was one of four finalists for Civil Air Patrol's High-Altitude Balloon Challenge. The five-month project involved participants from 135 squadrons across CAP. In addition to being named as a finalist in the competition, the squadron was recognized for the best video presentation.

Top honors were presented to several very active cadets. Cadet Master Sgt. Taylor Hess was named Cadet of the Year. The Air Force Sergeants Association award went to Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Blake Johnson, and the Air Force Association Cadet Award was presented to Cadet Senior Airman James Hardy. A special "Spirit Award" went to Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Aiden Hand along with the Presidential Fitness Award.

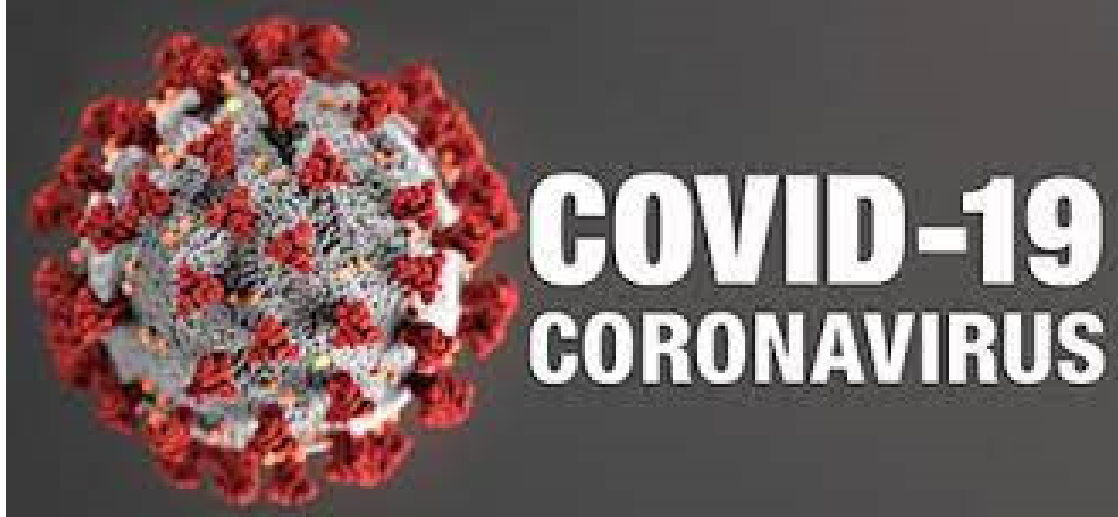
Several of the squadron's adult leaders earned honorable mentions for their promotions including 2nd Lt. Jenny Hess. A Commander's Commendation was presented to Lt. Col. Revonne Bauwens for her teaching role in the High-Altitude Balloon Challenge. Certificates of appreciation for support to the many Operation Pulse Lift blood donor collection events in 2021 went to squadron member 1st Lt. Jon Dahl and Commander Jack Latham of VFW Post 9907.

One final event for 2021 was the squadron members supporting Wreaths Across America in Show Low and Pinetop-Lakeside on December 18.

This past year, 11 cadets received orientation flights, 26 activities outside of the normal meeting venues were supported in and around Show Low, and squadron members spent eight days supporting the American Red Cross under CAP's Operation Pulse Lift. 🇺🇸

New Mexico Wing Reverts to Phase II of Remobilization Plan

*by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel,
CAP, New Mexico Wing*



ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On November 15, 2021, New Mexico Wing reverted to Phase II of Civil Air Patrol's Remobilization Plan, due to the high number of positive COVID-19 cases within the state.

In a memo released to all senior members, New Mexico Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Dean M. Klassy, Sr., head of the New Mexico Wing Remobilization Task Force, said, "We have done all we could, but the numbers have been against us for the past couple of months."

The Wing had transitioned into Phase III of CAP's Remobilization Plan on June 17, 2021, just two weeks before New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham lifted all COVID restrictions on July 1, meaning that all businesses in the state could reopen and operate at full capacity.

Under Phase III, members of the Wing could host events with 150 or fewer low-risk members and could even host overnight activities. The reversion to Phase II means that members can host day-long meetings and one-day activities, with 50 or fewer low-risk members attending in person, and with self-identified high-risk members continuing to work from home.

In his memo, Klassy reiterated the steps all members can take to mitigate the effects of the virus.

- **General Health.** Members should minimize their exposure to others and themselves. "If you or a member of your household or person you have had contact with are now feeling ill, please stay home," Klassy noted. Members with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher should stay home. Units and squadrons will continue to conduct temperature checks at each meeting or activity. "The best practice would be for you to take your own temperature before you leave home, instead of waiting until you get to your meeting and be turned away or risk the possibility of infecting someone at the meeting," Klassy said.
- **Practice Good Hygiene.** Members should wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, practice social distancing as much as possible, and avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with their hands.
- **Face Coverings.** Members shall wear appropriate face coverings during the unit meeting, and before and after the meeting, if they are with others.
- **Clean as you go.** Along with a thorough cleaning before and after each meeting, members should clean all surfaces after use with an appropriate cleaning/disinfecting agent.
- **High-Risk Category.** "If you are within the high-risk category, it is recommended that you stay home and avoid the meetings during Phase II," Klassy said.

A written attendance log is mandatory and must be retained for further review. "Non-essential travel in corporate aircraft and vehicles may continue, with due consideration of appropriate risk mitigation," Klassy said. 🇺🇸



Top: Capt. Nancy Parra-Quinlan accepts her award as the Arizona Educational Foundation's 2021 Teacher of the Year.
(Photo: Arizona Educational Foundation)

Aerospace Education Champion is Arizona Teacher of the Year

by Maj. Margot Myers, CAP, Arizona Wing

PHOENIX – On October 16, 2021, Capt. Nancy Parra-Quinlan, Falcon Composite Squadron, was named the Arizona Educational Foundation's 2022 Arizona Teacher of the Year. She is the aerospace education officer for her squadron and an assistant director of the wing aerospace education team.

"I teach flight and space/rocketry lessons to the squadron cadets, take them on field trips, and work with adult members to learn more about aviation," says Parra-Quinlan.

She is a seventh- and eighth-grade STEM/Career and Technical Education teacher at Kino Junior High School in Mesa, Arizona. A teacher for 28 years, Parra-Quinlan has been at Kino for 15 years. Robotics, engineering design, flight and space, and a "medical detectives" class are among the subjects she teaches. She also directs the Mesa Public School's summer Aerospace Academy, coaches the RoboKolts Robotics team for Kino Junior High, and sponsors Kino's STEM Club, known as "SIMI," an acronym for STEM Institute for Manufacturing and Innovation.

"I've always wanted to teach," she says. "I was that little kid who played 'school.' I've always loved getting information and learning myself and the idea of being able to share that with my students and finding a way to help them understand things without just standing up in front of them and talking is so important."

She has received numerous accolades during her career, including being named the second runner up for the Air Force Association's National Teacher of the Year in 2017.

The recipients of the Arizona Teacher of the Year Award spend a year of service, advocating on behalf of a subject they choose. Parra-Quinlan will focus on STEM education, especially for young women and students of color, emphasizing the wide range of opportunities available to them in STEM-related careers.

Parra-Quinlan encourages girls to get involved in STEM and says a focus on STEM career-readiness is crucial, especially for junior high-age students. She is strongly committed to providing both her students and Civil Air Patrol cadets with real-world skills in STEM as well as career and technical education. "Arizona is a magnet for technology companies, including aerospace, electronics and other manufacturing industries," she said, noting the importance of preparing young people "to work in the industries that will be most abundant in Arizona over the next few decades."

According to the Arizona Educational Foundation's website, "As Arizona's Teacher of the Year, Parra-Quinlan becomes a candidate for National Teacher of the Year. She will receive \$15,000 from the Arizona Educational Foundation as well as a trip to the White House to meet the U.S. President, and will spend a week at International Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. She will also be given professional speech and media training, consideration to receive an honorary doctorate from Northern Arizona University, and an Arizona K12 Center Scholarship."

Right: Nancy Parra-Quinlan share her knowledge of aviation and aerospace both with students in her junior high classes and cadets at her Civil Air Patrol squadron.
(Photographer unknown)





Top: Cadet Technical Sergeant Taylor (TJ) Hess, Show Low Composite Squadron, was a featured speaker at the Veterans Day observance in Lakeside, Arizona. (Photo: 2nd Lt. Jenny Hess, CAP)

Arizona Wing Composite Squadron Supports Veterans Day Event

by Lt. Col. Carol Schaub Schlager, CAP, Arizona Wing

SHOW LOW, Ariz. – On November 11, 2021, members of the Show Low Composite Squadron supported the Veterans Day Remembrance Celebration at Memorial Park in Lakeside, Arizona. The squadron works closely with the Veterans of Foreign Wars White Mountain Post 9907 and supported this event because of that ongoing relationship.

Senior members and cadets assisted in set up, the honor ceremony, tear down, and clean up.

One of the featured speakers at the event was Cadet Technical Sergeant Taylor (TJ) Hess, an active member of the squadron along with his parents, 2nd Lts. Jeffrey and Jenny Hess. He was invited by the VFW to participate in the ceremony.

Cadet Hess discussed the history of Veterans Day, including its origin in 1919 as Armistice Day, on the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Though the annual event to honor veterans became a national holiday in 1938, it wasn't until 1954 that President Dwight D. Eisenhower changed the name of the observance to Veterans Day.

"We honor veterans for multiple reasons, but especially because of all the sacrifices they have made for our country," Hess said. "Veterans have given us freedom, security, and one of the greatest, if not the greatest, nation on Earth. It is impossible to put a price on that. I think that what they have done for our country is amazing, and truly shows their patriotism and how strong they really are. Everyone should honor them on every day, not just Veterans Day."

He added, "Even though I feel that veterans are not getting recognized quite as much as they should, I would also like to bring up the sacrifices made by soldiers currently serving in our military. They give up modern-day comforts to be a part of our military and defend our country. Some have even given everything for our country and our freedom, something that I am proud of, and that countless others are also."

Hess told the audience that his goal is to serve in the Air Force and that he hopes to become a pilot. He said that many of his family members have served, in every branch of the military except the Coast Guard.

"I know how much a simple 'thank you for your service' can mean to them," he said. "So, I would just like to say, thank you all for your service to our country." 🇺🇸



Top: (L-R) Socorro Composite Squadron Commander 1st Lt. Christine Kurtmaker accepts Civil Air Patrol's Certificate of Appreciation from New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Annette Peters, on behalf of her Public Affairs Officer, Lt. Col. David Finley, who was recognized for submitting articles to three different editions of the Wing newsletter. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)

Three New Mexico Wing Members Recognized for Newsletter Submissions

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – At its Commanders' Call and Staff Meeting on October 16, 2021, three members of New Mexico Wing were recognized with Certificates of Appreciation for their contributions to FLIGHT LINE, New Mexico Wing's quarterly newsletter: Socorro Composite Squadron Public Affairs Officer Lt. Col. David Finley, Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron Commander Maj. Mary A. Fox, and Santa Fe Composite Squadron Public Affairs Officer Maj. C. John Graham, who is also New Mexico Wing director of safety.

The recognition program, which began in January 2020, rewards members who contribute articles to the newsletter. Members receive a Certificate of Appreciation for contributing articles to three different editions of the newsletter (Submissions need not be consecutive.) Multiple submissions in one newsletter count as one submission. Members also receive an Achievement Award for contributing articles to another six editions of the newsletter; again, submissions need not be consecutive. Multiple submissions to one newsletter also count as one submission.

From a public affairs standpoint, the recognition program has stimulated interest in the submission of articles by members of the Wing and has created a small pool of contributors. 🇺🇸



Top: Senior members and cadets from multiple Arizona Wing squadrons participated in a Cadet Orientation Flight Mass Fly-Day event in Tucson. (Photo: Maj. Rick Yang, CAP)

Multiple Arizona Wing Squadrons Conduct Mass Fly Day Event

by 1st Lt. Mark Huey, Arizona Wing

TUCSON, Ariz. – On November 20, 2021, Davis-Monthan Composite Squadron hosted a Cadet Orientation Flight Mass Fly-Day event. The Tucson-based squadron's Lt. Col. Mark Malan coordinated the successful effort to get cadets back in the air after a long pandemic pause in orientation flights.

Lt. Col. Scott Curtis and Maj. Rick Yang of Scottsdale Composite Squadron led their squadron's cadets as they participated in this educational experience. Participating cadets learned how to safely deploy and redeploy CAP Aircraft to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. Cadets and senior members were trained in flight-line marshalling and were given tours and an orientation to the Air Traffic Control Tower and Tucson Radar Control Facility. Cadets also were provided tours of an A-10 static display and a TF-34 Engine Repair Facility.

"This Cadet Orientation Flight Fly-Day was flawlessly executed," said Curtis. "The Operations building and all the Davis-Monthan Composite Squadron support staff were top-notch as well, from those who conducted the mass briefing, to the communications staff, flight release officer, administrative staff, food and beverages, and the many others who contributed to the success of the day's events."

Thirty-four cadets participated in the event and 26 orientation flights were completed. There were six planes involved in the event. Maj. Stu Smith flew CAP297 from Yuma Composite Squadron. Maj. Wayne Hughes flew CAP255 from Cochise Composite Squadron in Sierra Vista. The pilot for CAP290 from Falcon Composite Squadron in Mesa was Maj. Dave Roden. Curtis flew Scottsdale Composite Squadron's CAP206. Capt. John Spilotro from Wm Rogers Memorial Senior Squadron flew CAP256. From the host Davis-Monthan Composite Squadron, Senior Member Jozsef Jonas flew CAP231.

Twelve senior members and cadets provided flight line marshalling throughout the event. 🇺🇸



How Do You Write Veterans Day? (The Ins-and-outs of Apostrophe-s)

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – I am a stickler for correct spelling and punctuation, so when it came time to write about Veterans Day, I believed it to belong to all veterans, and so I wrote it as *Veterans' Day*. That did not seem right, since so many articles and posters I saw did not include the apostrophe. For guidance, I went to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website, [Veterans Day Frequently Asked Questions - Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs \(va.gov\)](https://www.va.gov/vetaffairs) which gives a full explanation of how to write *Veterans Day*: “Veterans Day does not include an apostrophe but does include an “s” at the end of “veterans” because it is not a day that “belongs” to veterans, it is a day for honoring all veterans.” I went back to the article I had written and removed the apostrophe. Wanting to cover all the holidays, I checked to see if Presidents Day followed the same rule. I consulted the Associated Press (AP) Stylebook, which all writers and editors should use as a reference and discovered that Presidents Day does not take an apostrophe, either. The Stylebook advises that this is a rule of style followed by the federal government and is an exception to the rule of plural possessive nouns – to place an apostrophe after the s – which the Stylebook follows.

Another oddity of writing that I recently discovered was on how to properly use the hyphen. I knew that writers should use a hyphen to avoid ambiguity, and with so many changes of command that took place within the Wing, it was natural for me to refer to them as newly-appointed commanders; however, the Stylebook once again proved me wrong, “Do not use a hyphen between adverbs ending in ‘ly’ and adjectives they modify: *an easily remembered rule, a badly damaged island, a fully informed voter.*”

What about quotation marks and italics? Quotation marks, of course, should be used in direct quotations, but sometimes people get stuck on how to punctuate within a quotation. Typically, periods and commas are enclosed within the quotation marks, while colons and dashes are usually written outside of the quote; the placement of question marks depends on the context of the quotation. Quotation marks can also be used to denote nicknames. New Mexico Wing’s Albuquerque Heights Composite Squadron is more popularly known as Spirit Squadron, so upon first reference I always include the nickname, as in “Albuquerque Heights ‘Spirit’ Composite Squadron.” Quotation marks can be used to express irony – *His “leadership style” was underwhelming* – but should never be used for “emphasis.”

AP does not use italics in its news articles, but it does use them in its Stylebook for emphasis. What about foreign words and phrases? I learned a long time ago that if a foreign word has not made it into the English language, it should be italicized. If I write about the feeling of group pride within a unit, it is natural for me to write *esprit de corps*, but AP says otherwise, so I would simply write esprit de corps.

While I realize that many of these conventions are hardly oddities, it does seem odd for one to learn the rules of grammar and usage to the best of one’s ability, and then to find out, in writing professionally, that an entirely different set of rules applies. In the end, that is what writing is all about: a constant process of discovery and rediscovery, where learning never ends. 📖

On Writing

The Need for Editorial Transparency

AUSTIN, Texas – Since writing is an extension of how one expresses oneself, it would be easy for an editor to radically change an author's writing style. But editing requires fixing rather than changing, so when preparing someone else's writing for publication, the editor needs to be mindful of keeping personal axes away from grinding into someone else's work.

Here is a case in point. It is legitimate and correct English to say, "John Smith, a local sheriff, patrolled the streets often." But it is also acceptable to say, "A local sheriff named John Smith patrolled the streets often." And still another choice was available to the writer, who could have said, "A local sheriff who went by the name of John Smith patrolled the streets often." However, the last example has an added shade of meaning, because saying "went by the name of" hints that this was what the man called himself, although it might not have been his real name.

Of the examples above, my choice would be the first one, "John Smith, a local sheriff, patrolled the streets at fixed times." Why? Because it fits the rule of parsimony, as it uses the fewest words to say what needs to be said, and is unambiguous.

In reading several articles in a recent issue of a well-known glossy monthly magazine published in Texas, the editor consistently used the form, "A local man that was named John Smith, etc. etc." instead of just "John Smith, a local man, etc., etc." – and, notably, all these articles had different bylines.

Reading the text critically, only two possible explanations suggested themselves from the writing style: either the bylines were all aliases of the same writer, or all the writers had been subjected to what I call "sledge-hammer editing." The latter seemed the case, given the wide range of subjects treated in these articles, so it seemed that different authors wrote them.

In previous issues, I have stressed the importance of keeping an article's byline untouched, no matter how much work has gone into editing it for publication. Today, I must address the art of clear writing, which is dependent on the use of easily understood words and logical clause order. This has been at the bottom of every language since writing was invented, and in the Western world, Latin and Greek are the original examples that a good writer should learn to follow.

My high school baccalaureate curriculum included 3 years of Latin, and required us to memorize some short writings. Doing so gave us a window into the world of Latin, Rome, and the roots of most Romance languages (including English, which is partially based on modified *Lange d'oc* spoken by the Normans, in turn derived from Vulgar Latin through the Gallic). One of these readings was a short piece dating back to the First Punic War fought between Rome and Carthage (264-241 BC) titled "Hannibal's Oath," which began: *Pater meus, Amilcar, puerulo me...*, that translates as, "My father, Hamilcar, when I was a child..." written by the Carthaginian General Hannibal Barca.

For our purpose, the Punic Wars had nothing to do with our subject, but the snippet mentioned above is a good starting point. Notice how it is constructed. It begins with the subject given in relation to the writer, "My father," then by name, "Hamilcar," followed by the author's station in life at the time, "when I was a child," setting the stage for the oath that Hamilcar asked his young son Hannibal to swear to. This is exceptionally clear writing.

It is not accidental that some of the clearest writing in the English language has been penned by authors steeped in the classics, which was part of a formal education as taught in British schools up to the mid-20th century. Two supreme examples of prose writers are Sir Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill (known as Winston Churchill) and Eric Arthur Blair (known as George Orwell), and in poetry, George Gordon Byron (known as Lord Byron) and Wilfred Edward Salter Owen (known as Wilfred Owen).

Churchill wrote in simple terms, dissecting politics, foreign policy, the waging of war, and national goals in factual books that were timely for his day. Orwell, on the other hand, commented

on British Colonial policies, the danger of centralist powers and totalitarian governments, and the effect of disinformation on a society built on slogans. Lord Byron, a wealthy, privileged and influential son of the 18th century, wrote beautiful poetry with a satirist streak, backed by a flamboyant personality that played on the imagination of European society, while Owen, in his life cruelly cut short at age 25, delved into the personal horrors of war, life in the trenches of World War I, and the inhuman scale of horrific, mechanized modern warfare.

What do they all have in common? They used the language to architect timeless writings, opening current and future social and existential wounds, lamenting the human condition, and decrying the greed and overbearing of thoughtless and abusive leaders at all levels. Although Lord Byron could be considered a social critic, the other three are all exponents of individuals reacting to world-wide situations that imperiled personal freedom and dignity.

In the past, I have used President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address as an example of outstanding writing. This bears revisiting. There are four very similar versions of the Gettysburg Address, all in Lincoln's handwriting. Reproduced below is the version that Lincoln sent to Edward Everett, who had spoken at the dedication, and today is kept at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives, that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate, we can not consecrate we can not hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here, have, thus far, so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

This short speech starts with a statement naming the time, the people, the place, the deed, the motivation, and the purpose. Notice that the date is given in the obsolescent Biblical "four score." It is only after this preamble that Lincoln turns to the present, at a time when the country is struggling in a fratricidal war, and the effects of that war. The third paragraph, that rings with the expression "can not" (*cannot* did not yet exist) three times, in a Trinitarian echo of holiness, lauds and credits those who have died in the conflict, minimizing the value of his own speech but paying homage to the personal sacrifice and eternity of the honored soldiers buried there. The closing paragraph affirms Lincoln's determination to finish the task ahead, and in so doing honor those buried in that ground by assuring continuity of government and unity of nation.

Delivering this speech, at a stately and measured tempo, probably took less than three minutes. And in that short time, Lincoln honored those who had died in battle, took no credit for himself as he proclaimed that their sacrifice itself was responsible for hallowing that ground, promised to continue the fight until peace and unity had been achieved, and mentioned the fundamental underlying principles of our democracy as an example for all to take to heart. 🇺🇸

Lt. Col. Arthur E. Woodgate, CAP
SWR Director of Public Affairs

The Safety Corner

Welcome to 2022!

I have written a lot in this space about risk management, provided tips on helping keep our members safe, and what happens when it becomes necessary to fill out a mishap report or review a mishap.

So, how did SWR do last year safety-wise?

Aircraft and Vehicle mishaps remained at the same levels as the previous five years.

Bodily injuries were up slightly over last year with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, but still fewer than the previous five years.

Many of our aircraft mishaps occur during training and proficiency flying – usually with an Instructor Pilot or Check Pilot aboard. These include ground handling mishaps where the aircraft strikes another object while being positioned into or out of the hangar.

So, what can you do to reduce the number of ground handling mishaps?

- Any time a CAP aircraft is being moved the proper aircraft towbar should be used. Remove when the aircraft movement is complete. Leaving the towbar installed on the nose strut is something that can be overlooked in the anticipation of getting airborne. Members have left the towbar in place resulting in prop strikes, damaged tow bars and have even flown with the towbar still connected to the nose strut.
- Ensure your clearances between aircraft and any surrounding objects. If it looks close, stop and reevaluate before continuing to move the aircraft.

Instructor Pilots and Check Pilots – guard the flight controls during training and evaluation flights. Don't be hesitant to take the flight controls when necessary to prevent a mishap. Always brief a positive exchange of flight controls before each flight. This may seem basic, but CAP had two aircraft from other Regions that were heavily damaged last year in takeoff and landing mishaps with an Instructor or Check Pilot aboard who did not make timely flight control inputs to avoid a crash.

Most vehicle mishaps in SWR involve backing into another object or being involved in a collision while on the road. CAP vehicles are generally larger than the personal vehicles that many of our members drive. While they don't require special licensing to drive, they do have limited visibility especially to the rear, and a larger turning radius than most members' autos.

So, what can you do to reduce the number of vehicle mishaps?

- When backing – use a spotter! If you're driving alone, try to park in such a way that you are not required to back out, or at the least, walk around the vehicle to check for clearance before backing. Make sure that you coordinate with the spotter on hand or verbal signals so you're both on the same page. It's a lot harder to hear a "STOP!" command if the windows are rolled up.
- When driving with passengers, the driver needs to focus on driving – not carry on a guided tour of the local area, use the phone for texting, or other distractions.

Most bodily injuries result from Cadet Physical Fitness activities. Encourage good nutrition and hydration at home and at school – not just at CAP activities. Use the Wingman system and pay attention to your fellow members. If they seem to not look well, they probably don't feel well even if they haven't said anything.

One of our most important goals is to ensure that we participate in CAP activities...and not get hurt! 🍷

Col. Robert Castle, CAP

SWR Director of Safety

Associated Press Style in a Nutshell

Below are the most important rules to keep in mind when writing in AP Style

- Write the title in normal English-language capitalization. Never all in caps.
- Add your byline below the article title
- Do not format the text in the article (only exceptions are: bullet comments and numbered paragraphs in a section that details a process or sequence).
- Do not indent the first line of a paragraph.
- Use AP Style rules for punctuation.
- Single space the article. At the end of each paragraph, execute two end-of lines (Enter key).
- Do not introduce artificial paragraphing by hitting the Enter key at the end of each line in your article. Instead, let the text wrap naturally and tap two Enter keys at the end of the paragraph.
- Use only a single space after a period.
- Insert a dateline at the beginning of the article, following AP Style rules.
- Answer the 5Ws: Who, What, Where, When, Why + the honorary W: How. In writing a CAP article, you will always know the 5Ws.
- Write all dates in AP style.
- Do not use postal codes instead of state abbreviations in the dateline (not OK but Okla., not NM but N.M.) but some states have no abbreviation, such as Texas.
- Write all military grades in AP Style.
- Write the article in the third person singular.
- Express no opinion.
- To express opinion, use one or more quotes of qualified sources – always get the quoted person's permission to include the quote, unless it is a matter of record (printed article or recorded audio-visual). Get the quoted person's grade, name, job title and organization.
- Never self-quote.
- Identify all persons by grade or title, name, job title if material, and organization.
- Never refer to a young person as "kid."
- When a young person is a CAP cadet, never use "kid," "boy," "girl" or "child" but identify each one by grade, full name (or last name only – never first name only), and unit of assignment.
- Never use "their" for the possessive of a singular subject, such as, "the cadet took their meal."
- Avoid the abbreviations i.e. and e.g. You may know what each one means, and the Latin words they represent, but most people confuse the two. Be clear. Write in English and leave Latin and non-English to scholars.
- Refer to CAP members by grade, name, duty position and unit of assignment. Never by first name.
- On second or subsequent references, use only the last name, except when there are two persons with the same last name, in which case the use of both first and last name is preferred (never just the first names).
- In the case of CAP or military commanders or high-ranking senior members, on second reference use the grade and last name.
- Do not use Lt. as a grade. Lt. is a mode of address. The correct grade may be 2nd Lt. or 1st Lt., but never Lt. Only the Navy and Coast Guard have the grade of Lt.
- Do not use exclamation marks in the body of your article, as doing so expresses opinion.
- Use simple declarative sentences.
- Avoid the passive voice.
- Remember the rules of English grammar and syntax, and follow them.
- **For best results**, buy the latest copy of the Associated Press Stylebook, available at a modest cost at www.ap.org – read it, study it, know it, and use it. 📖